



PATENT
Docket No.: FOV-036

2878
#9/A
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TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2878

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Serial No. 09/515,807

Filed: February 29, 2000

In re Application of: Merrill et al.

For: HIGH-SENSITIVITY STORAGE PIXEL SENSOR HAVING AUTO-EXPOSURE
DETECTION

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Director of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 2/22/02. Signed Stephanie Davis
Stephanie Davis

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

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In the Specification

On page 16, line 1 to line 9, kindly insert the following "clean" paragraph:

AI To read out a pixel sensor, the SFD node at the drain of the second MOS N-Channel source-follower transistor (labeled VSFD2 in FIG. 2A) is driven to the voltage VSFD, the ROW SELECT signal for the row of the array containing the pixel sensor 10 is asserted, and the output signal is thereby driven onto COLUMN OUTPUT line 32. The timing of the assertion of the VSFD2 signal is not critical, except that it should remain high until after the ROW SELECT signal is de-asserted as illustrated in FIG. 2A. It may be advantageous to limit the voltage slope at the rising edge of the ROW SELECT signal if VSFD2 is raised first, as disclosed in co-pending application serial No. 09/492,103, filed February 14, 2000, docket No. FOV-038.